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forerunner of the Romantic movement. "There is in Pope," says the author, "faint glimmerings of a love for nature and even for the romantic. His sensitive temperament felt already the coming of influences that were to shape and change poetry after his death." Of course Professor Crawshaw does not consider Pope other than a poet of classicism, but it seems strange to have Pope credited with being a lover of nature—other than "nature methodized." But such criticism seems to be carping pedantry.

Professor Crawshaw has enhanced the value of his book by including many portraits in sepia tone, reproductions of old prints and pages of old manuscripts, and views of scenes and buildings famous in the literary history of England. An appendix to the volumes gives a chronological outline, a very complete reading and study list, and a suggestive and well-chosen set of questions. A literary map and a full index complete this scholarly and readable volume. But with these manifold excellences we doubt very much if the volume has the staying qualities necessary for classroom work. For the general reader it is undoubtedly an excellent book.

H. E. COBLENTZ

MILWAUKEE, WIS.

The Major Dramas of Richard Brinsley Sheridan. Edited by GEORGE HENRY NETTLETON. Boston: Ginn & Co. Pp. cxvii+331.

It is somewhat surprising that students of English literature who are bitten with the desire to edit something have not fallen on the dramas of Sheridan. With the exception of the late Fraser Rae's voluminous biography of Sheridan and the same author's edition of Sheridan's *Plays*, no adequate treatment of Sheridan and his work has been made in recent years. Hence it was very appropriate that Professor Nettleton should take up Mr. Rae's work and carry it forward, especially since Mr. Rae himself admitted "that there remained a large and almost unexplored field for investigation in the study of the plays"—a critical study based on contemporary documents. This, then is the distinctive aim of Professor Nettleton's edition, "to give a critical study of Sheridan's major dramas based primarily on contemporary evidence." To this end the editor informs us he has consulted more than a thousand volumes of eighteenth-century memoirs, diaries, novels, essays, poems, newspapers, and magazines to garner material for his introduction and notes. Thus, to illuminate the "local color" in *The Rivals* one of the sections in the introduction gives a vivid and interesting picture of Bath in the eighteenth century, drawn from Goldsmith's *Life of Richard Nash*, Christopher Anstey's poem "The New Bath Guide," Fanny Burney's diary, Horace Walpole's letters, Smollett's novels, and contemporary magazines. Another section gives the story of the initial failure, and final triumph of *The Rivals* based on extracts, given in the Appendix, from contemporary documents. All this work Professor Nettleton has done in a thoroughly critical and scholarly manner with a keen literary appreciation. Admirers of Sheridan's *The Rivals*, *The School for Scandal*, and *The Critic*—and who does not admire all of these plays?—may now have their favorites printed (for the first time in America) from the authentic text of Sheridan's plays taken from the original manuscripts, and edited (for the first time anywhere) with

complete annotation. To add that this book is printed in the well-known "Athenæum Press Series" is to indicate its superior typographical features.

H. E. COBLENTZ

MILWAUKEE, WIS.

Essays on English Studies. By HENRY N. HUDSON, LL.D. Edited by A. J. GEORGE, Litt. D. Boston: Ginn & Co. Pp. xxii+206.

In editing the little volume entitled *Essays on English Studies* by Dr. Henry N. Hudson, Professor A. J. George has made a fitting tribute to his old friend and teacher, and at the same time has made a worthy contribution to the library—now assuming a larger space—of studies in English. The volume contains the following essays: "Preface to School Hamlet," "English in Schools," "Shakespeare as a Text-Book," "How to Use Shakespeare in School," "On Editing Shakespeare," and "Daniel Webster." Professor George's Preface and Introduction treat the significant events of Dr. Hudson's life, and the principles which were the basis for his work as an editor and writer. The Notes to the volume (and seldom does the reader find more entertaining and illuminating matter in notes than he finds in this book) are written in the spirit of the editor's master—the author of the essays. We teachers of English owe many debts to both men, and we cannot do better than to give many an hour to this little book, fertile in advice, stimulating in suggestion, packed with common-sense experience gained in actual work, and inspiring to us who, probably more than teachers of other subjects, are prone to have black moments when we are inclined to believe that English cannot be taught. The fact that Dr. Hudson began his revolutionary movement in teaching English when it was a dead business, and made it a matter of life and spirit, and the equally important fact that he inspired many teachers to see literature as a matter of the soul and not of syllables, letters, punctuation, and literary parsing, so that they too became living disciples of a good teacher, should induce every teacher of English to read this volume that he may be saved many moments of despair.

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